



Traffic Services Section Michigan State Police Field Update #22

Providing Traffic Related Information and Services to Michigan Law Enforcement

Section Phone (517) 336-6171

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Traffic Crash Investigation Training

The Michigan State Police (MSP) and BenchMark Traffic Services, LLC, are conducting a Technical Traffic Crash Investigation course, October 16-27, 2006, at the Troy Police Department Training Center, 4850 John R. Road. The course will be instructed by Mr. Bill Brandt, retired MSP Traffic Crash Reconstruction Unit Commander, along with current MSP Reconstruction Specialists. The pre-requisite for this training is either the two-week At-Scene Traffic Crash Investigation course conducted by MSP, Accident Investigation 1 **and** 2 from Michigan State University (MSU), or comparable training from another vendor. Upon successful completion, the student will be eligible to attend Traffic Crash Reconstruction training offered by MSP, MSU, and other vendors including the Institute of Police Technology and Management (IPTM).

This course is MCOLES Certified and tuition is \$500 per student. Contact [Mr. Bill Brandt](#), BenchMark Traffic Services, LLC, at (517) 622-3135 to register. Class size is limited and only 6 seats remain. For additional information, contact Mr. Brandt, or [Lt. Gary Megge](#), MSP Traffic Services, (517) 336-6579.

Recent Traffic Law Changes

Low Speed Vehicles

[2006 PA 377](#) amended [MCL 257.25b](#), adopting the definition found in the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) 3(b) ([49 CFR 571.3\(b\)](#)), and the required equipment found in FMVSS 500 ([49 CFR 571.500](#)) by reference. There are no real changes to the legal requirements for operating or registering low speed vehicles. The changes to the law merely allow for improvements in technology and safety equipment approved by the federal government to become immediately legal for use in Michigan without having to go through the legislative process.

Bicycles

[2006 PA 339](#) amended [MCL 257.612](#), requiring vehicle operators to yield the right-of-way to bicycles lawfully within an intersection. Under the existing language, the requirement applied specifically to pedestrians, making it unclear whether bicycles were to be treated as pedestrians or as vehicles. [MCL 257.660](#) was also amended to remove the references to bicycles. The language from this section was then inserted into four [new sections](#), MCL 257.660a through 660d. This change separates bicycles from mopeds, low speed vehicles, and Segway devices for purposes of use and operator requirements.

Archived Copies of Previous Field Updates

The Traffic Services Section [web page](#) has recently been revised in the way that previous Field Updates are archived. The current version is located under the heading of "Headlines" while the [archived copies](#) are located under the heading of "Programs." Archived copies are currently available as individual .PDF files. A [cumulative file](#) with index and publication dates is available for those with high speed internet connections. Please be advised that this file is currently larger than 3 megabytes, and will take several minutes to download over a dial-up connection.

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